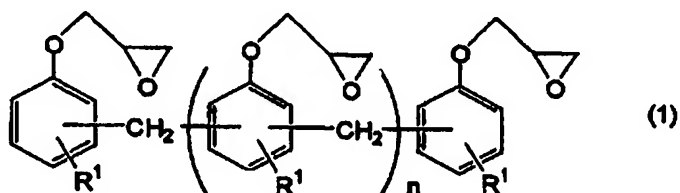


IN THE CLAIMS

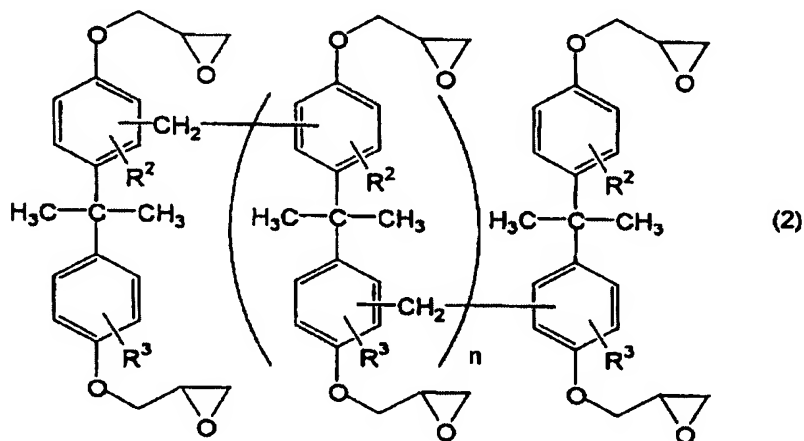
Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1 to 6 ( canceled):

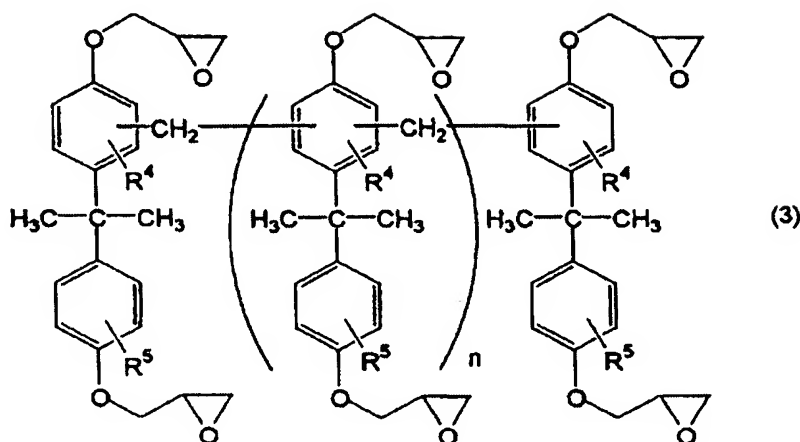
Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A radiation-sensitive resin composition for forming optical waveguides, which comprises: (A) a novolac type epoxy resin represented by the following general formula (1), (2), or (3), and having an epoxy equivalent of 100 to 300 g/eq, in an amount of 15 to 80 mass percent based on the total amount of the composition, wherein



in the formula (1),  $R^1$  is a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, or an aralkyl group; and  $n$  is an integer from 0 to 10



wherein, in the formula (2),  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are each independently a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, or an aralkyl group; and  $n$  is an integer from 0 to 10



wherein, in the formula (3),  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  are each independently a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group having 1 to 12 carbon atoms, or an aralkyl group; and n is an integer from 0 to 10  
; and (B) a photo-acid generator in an amount of 0.1 to 5 mass percent based on the total amount of the composition; and (C) an epoxy monomer in an amount of 17 to 82 mass percent based on the total amount of the composition.

Claim 8 (Cancelled).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The radiation-sensitive resin composition for forming optical waveguides according to claim 7 ~~claim 1~~, wherein a cured product of the radiation-sensitive resin composition has a refractive index ( $n_D^{25}$ ) of 1.55 or more.

Claim 10 (Cancelled).

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The radiation-sensitive resin composition for forming optical waveguides according to claim 7 ~~claim 1~~, wherein a cured product of the radiation-sensitive resin composition has a glass-transition temperature of 100 °C ~~degree C~~. or higher.

Claim 12 (Cancelled).

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): An optical waveguide, which comprises a lower clad layer, a core portion, and an upper clad layer, wherein at least one selected from the lower clad layer, the core portion, and the upper clad layer is a cured product of the resin composition according to claim 7 ~~claim 1~~.

Claim 14 (Cancelled).

Claim 15 (New): The radiation-sensitive composition for forming optical waveguides according to claim 7, wherein the component (A) is represented by the general formula (2) or (3).

Claim 16 (New): The radiation-sensitive resin composition for forming optical waveguides according to claim 15, wherein a cured product of the radiation-sensitive resin composition has a refractive index ( $n_D^{25}$ ) of 1.55 or more.

Claim 17 (New): The radiation-sensitive resin composition for forming optical waveguides according to claim 15, wherein a cured product of the radiation-sensitive resin composition has a glass-transition temperature of 100 °C or higher.

Claim 18 (New): An optical waveguide, which comprises a lower clad layer, a core portion, and an upper clad layer, wherein at least one selected from the lower clad layer, the core portion, and the upper clad layer is a cured product of the resin composition according to claim 15.